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**Congresswoman Matsui Applauds Selection of Sacramento for Inaugural Smithsonian Exhibit**

*Sacramento Public Library Will Host "American Sabor: Latinos in U.S. Popular Music" May 25 – August 7*

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – Today, Congresswoman Doris Matsui (D-Sacramento), who has represented the U.S. House of Representatives on the Smithsonian Board of Regents since 2007, applauded the selection of the Sacramento Public Library as the inaugural host site for American Sabor: Latinos in U.S. Popular Music, a traveling exhibition organized by the Smithsonian Institution. The exhibition will explore the musical contributions of American Latinos from the 1940s to the present, and will be on display in Sacramento from May 25th to August 7th, 2011.

"American Sabor will allow Sacramentans the chance to discover the story of how Latino music is uniquely tied to American culture," said Congresswoman Matsui. "I am thrilled that Sacramento has been chosen as the inaugural site for this exhibit, and look forward to helping make American Sabor come to life."

Developed by the Experience Music Project and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), American Sabor will travel to 12 cities over the next four years. The exhibition, its national tour and related programs are made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund. This is the second time that a Smithsonian exhibition sponsored by Ford will travel to the Sacramento Public Library in the last three years; American Sabor follows the highly successful showing of Freedom Sisters in 2008.

"The American Sabor exhibit represents two key elements of our Sacramento community, our

amazing diversity, and that libraries are at the heart and soul of learning,” said Sacramento Public Library Director Rivkah Sass. “As we’ve learned over the past decade or so, learning doesn’t just come from books. Libraries are at the heart of bringing information to life as this exhibit so beautifully illustrates.”

“The impact of Latino musicians on American popular music moves beyond the unmistakable rhythms and dance,” said Anna R. Cohn, Director of SITES. “American Sabor tells the broader story of Latino communities and how their artistry expresses their experiences as Americans.”

Congresswoman Matsui will also serve as a member of the American Sabor Local Community of Honor, a network of local honorary ambassadors will help extend the reach of the exhibition into the Sacramento community. For more information about the American Sabor exhibit, please telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920.

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